

Recreational Opportunities

Bird Watching – Bicycling – Fishing – Hiking – Hunting
Department areas are open to public use only from 4:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. daily; however, hunting, fishing, trapping, dog training, camping, launching boats and landing boats are permitted at any time in areas where these activities are authorized.

Rules and Regulations

- No littering.
- No fireworks.
- No open fires.
- Destroying, cutting or removing vegetation is prohibited. Nuts, berries, fruits, edible wild greens and mushrooms may be taken only for personal consumption.
- Vehicle use is restricted to graveled and paved roads and established parking areas, unless otherwise posted.
- Equestrian use is permitted only on roads open to vehicular traffic
- Camping is permitted in designated camping area.
- Camping is limited to 14 consecutive days in a 30-day period. All camping equipment, including vehicles, must be removed from the area at the end of the 14 days.
- Bicycles are allowed only on roads open to vehicular traffic.
- No target shooting allowed.
- Trail and game cameras are prohibited.

Fishing and Boating:

Fishing is permitted under statewide regulations. The following special regulations also apply:

- On the Missouri River, fishing is permitted under statewide regulations.
- Boats may be used on lakes and ponds and may not be left unattended overnight. Float tubes may be used for authorized fishing and hunting activities.
- Salvage seining of other fish may be permitted seasonally for personal use with a Special Use Permit.
- On lakes and ponds –
 - o Fishing is permitted, however the frequent drying of these waters inhibits quality fishing.
 - o Fish may be taken only by pole and line, and not more than three poles and lines may be used by any one person. Other restrictions applying to specific ponds, lakes and stream segments may be posted.
 - o Carp, buffalo, suckers, and gar may be taken by atlatl, gig, bow, or crossbow during statewide seasons.
 - o Daily limits are six black bass, four catfish in the aggregate (channel, blue and flathead) and 30

crappie. All other fish fall under statewide limits but are not to exceed 20 in the aggregate.

- o Black bass more than twelve inches (12”) but less than fifteen inches (15”) total length must be returned to the water unharmed immediately after being caught.
- o Bullfrogs and green frogs may be taken according to statewide seasons and limits.
- o Seining or trapping live bait, including tadpoles, is prohibited on all lakes and ponds.

Hunting and Trapping:

Area is open to hunting under statewide regulations, except as further restricted by the following regulations:

- Waterfowl may be hunted only during managed waterfowl hunts, except on the Missouri River.
- Non-Toxic shot is required for all hunting with a shotgun. Possession of lead shot is prohibited.
- Deer hunting is permitted under statewide seasons and limits except: only archery and muzzleloading methods may be used. The use of antlerless permits is allowed.
- Only portable tree stands are allowed and only from Sept. 1 through Jan. 31. Unattended stands must be plainly labeled on a durable material with the full name and address, or Conservation Number, of the owner and be removed from the area before Feb. 1. Use of nails, screw-in steps, and any material or method that would damage the tree is prohibited.
- Decoys and blinds are permitted but must be disassembled and removed daily. Blinds may be constructed on-site, but only from willows and non-woody vegetation.
- Trapping of furbearers is permitted only as specifically authorized by Special Use Permit.

For local information, contact:

Missouri Department of Conservation
16800 Settle Station Rd.
Platte City, MO 64079
(816) 858-5718

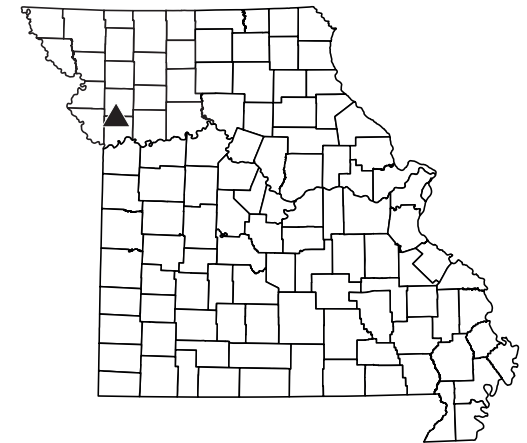
Additional area information is posted on bulletin boards located in parking areas and area offices.

5/2016

(Regulations are from the Wildlife Code of Missouri and selected statutes of the State of Missouri. Special area regulations are in Chapter 11 of the Wildlife Code. A free printed copy of the Wildlife Code, which lists most area regulations, is available from the Conservation Department. Chapter 11 in its entirety is available at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp.) Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 800-735-2966 (TTY), or to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Division of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.

Cooley Lake

CONSERVATION AREA



MISSOURI DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION